

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 8.

Please amend Claims 1, 3-7, and 9 as follows:

Please add new Claims 11-19 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A dental furnace for producing compacted ceramics, comprising:

a hood-shaped firing chamber into which a muffle can be inserted and which is closed in operation by a bottom plate, with

a pneumatic cylinder being mounted on the firing chamber; and

~~whose working pressure can be set by means of a pressure reducer, wherein at least two pressure reducers configured to set a working pressure of the pneumatic cylinder, are each pressure reducer being provided with a different working pressure or the pressure reducer is provided in the form of a proportional pressure regulator with electronically controllable different working pressures.~~

2. (Previously presented) A dental furnace according to claim 1, wherein the pressure reducers are arranged on a plate-like support basis.

3. (Currently amended) A dental furnace according to claim 2, wherein a pneumatic and/or electronic control unit is provided on the support basis whose lines and/or cabling is introduced from below into the at least one duct in a guide column.

4. (Currently amended) A dental furnace according to claim 1, wherein three pressure reducers are provided which each provide a working pressure of 4, 5 and 6 bar, respectively in particular.

5. (Currently amended) A dental furnace according to claim 4, wherein the an input or system pressure in the pneumatic line is approximately 10 bar.

6. (Currently amended) A dental furnace according to claim [1] 3, wherein the guide column comprises at least two ducts, with lines to the pneumatic cylinder and electric cables being guided separated from another.

7. (Currently amended) A dental furnace according to claim [1] 3, wherein the firing chamber is suspended at the upper end of the guide column.

8. (Canceled).

9. (**Currently amended**) A dental furnace according to claim 1, wherein the pressure reducers ~~or the proportional pressure regulator~~ are coupled with a program unit, ~~especially a memory card~~, in which different heating and/or compacting processes are stored.

10. (Previously presented) A dental furnace according to claim 1, wherein outlet slots for lines or cables are provided in the upper/lower region of a duct.

11. (**New**) A dental furnace for producing compacted ceramics, comprising:

a hood-shaped firing chamber into which a muffle can be inserted and which is closed in operation by a bottom plate;

a pneumatic cylinder mounted on the firing chamber; and

a proportional pressure regulator configured to set a working pressure of the pneumatic cylinder, the proportional pressure regulator having electronically controllable different working pressures.

12. (**New**) A dental furnace according to claim 11, wherein the proportional pressure regulator is arranged on a plate-like support basis.

13. (**New**) A dental furnace according to claim 12, wherein an electronic control unit is provided on the support basis whose lines and/or cabling is introduced from below into the at least one duct in a guide column.

14. (**New**) A dental furnace according to claim 11, wherein the proportional pressure regulator has working pressures of 4, 5 and 6 bar.

15. (**New**) A dental furnace according to claim 14, wherein the input or system pressure in the pneumatic line is approximately 10 bar.

16. (**New**) A dental furnace according to claim 13, wherein the guide column comprises at least two ducts, with lines to the pneumatic cylinder and electric cables being guided separated from another.

17. (**New**) A dental furnace according to claim 13, wherein the firing chamber is suspended at the upper end of the guide column.

18. (**New**) A dental furnace according to claim 11, wherein the proportional pressure regulator is coupled with a program unit in which different heating and/or compacting processes are stored.

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19. (New) A dental furnace according to claim 11, wherein outlet slots for lines or cables are provided in the upper/lower region of a duct.